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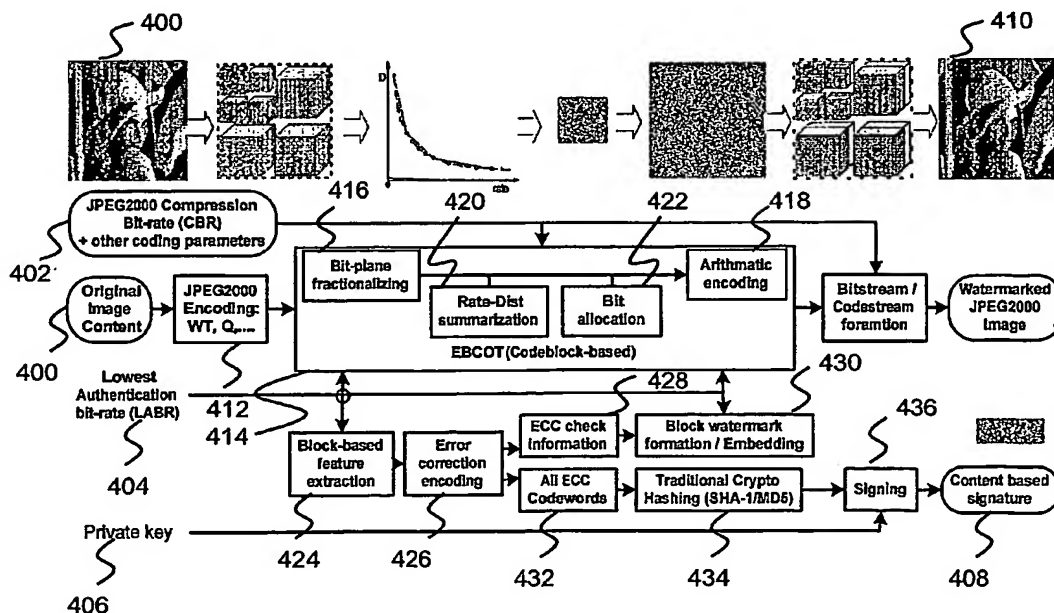
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(54) Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROTECTING AND AUTHENTICATING A DIGITAL IMAGE**



(57) Abstract: A method of protecting digital image, the method comprising extracting feature values from the digital image based on a selected authentication bit-rate; embedding data corresponding to the feature values as a watermark in a into the digital image; and creating an image signature based on the data corresponding to the feature values.



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